SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE NEWS FOR SUNDAY 17 JULY 2022

Good morning and welcome to the weekly news bulletin of the South African Radio League read by ..... [your name, call sign, and QTH]

The South African Radio League broadcasts a news bulletin each Sunday in Afrikaans and English at 08:15 and 08:30 Central African Time respectively on HF and various VHF and UHF repeaters around the country. The bulletin is relayed on Echolink by Johan, ZS6JPL. The audio bulletins can be downloaded from the League website at http://www.sarl.org.za while the text bulletin can be downloaded from https://sarlnewsbulletin.wordpress.com. To join the MailChimp bulletin mailing list, send an e-mail to the SARL Secretary. While the problems experienced by some members accessing the SARL web pages are being attended to, an additional channel is now available. To download the weekly SARL News audio recordings and to listen to, or download Amateur Radio Today, log on to www.amateurradio.org.za.

In the news today:

THE SARL WEBSITE

THE ZS2 QSO PARTY THIS AFTERNOON

and

THE SARL PREMIER CONTEST IN AUGUST

Stay tuned for more information on these and other interesting news items.

We begin the bulletin with news of two silent keys.

It is with deep regret that we announce that the keys of Martin Jerling, ZS4JM of Hennenman and Johan Hoffman, ZR6AJK went silent on Thursday 7 July 2022. Martin was a member of the Welkom Radio Club. We extend our sincere condolences to Martin and Johan's family and friends.

PAUSE

You are listening to a news bulletin of the South African Radio League.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

On behalf of the President, Council and members, the SARL News Team wishes Artie Perold, ZS1HL and Doug Brook, ZS6BCK a happy birthday. On Wednesday 13 July 2022, Artie celebrated his 93rd birthday and Doug his 90th birthday. Artie joined the SARL on 1 July 1947 – 75 years ago and Doug was the 13th President of the SARL.

THE SARL WEBSITE

Our Internet Hosting company is in the process of moving the SARL website to a different platform to solve the ongoing access problems. During the next few days there may be downtime. We will endeavour to advise the date and time the website will be down. Thank you for your understanding.

THE ZS2 QSO PARTY THIS AFTERNOON

The ZS2 QSO Party is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Eastern Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The aim for stations outside the Eastern Cape is to work as many ZS2 stations as possible! It is on the air from 14:00 to 15:00 UTC this afternoon. The exchange is an RS(T) report and provincial or country abbreviation. The QSO Party is a phone and CW contest on the 40-metre band. Submit your log by 21:59 UTC on Friday 22 July 2022 to contest@peham.co.za. Get the rules on page 42 of the 2022 Contest Manual.

THE INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE AND LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND IN AUGUST

The 25th ILLW takes place over the weekend of 20 and 21 August 2022. It is one of the most popular international amateur radio events in existence probably because there are very few rules, so it is not the usual contest type event. It is also free and there are no prizes for contacting large numbers of other stations. There is little doubt that the month of August has become "Lighthouse Month" due largely to the popularity and growth of the ILLW.

To date the following lighthouses have registered - Roman Rock; Agulhas; Cape Hangklip; Green Point, Cape Town; Danger Point; North Head and South Head, Saldanha Bay; Tugela Lighthouse; Umhlanga Rocks and Cape St Francis. Members of the Bo-Karoo ARC will be activating the two lighthouses at Saldanha, while members of the West Rand ARC will activate the Cape St Francis lighthouse. Is anybody going to activate a lighthouse in Mozambique or Namibia? Details about the 2022 Lighthouse Certificate will be published in August.

6 METRE BEACON IN NAMIBIA

The 6 m beacon at Rossing (grid JG77II) in Namibia has been upgraded. Listen out for V53SIX on 50,495 MHz CW and send your reception reports to narlnamham@gmail.com.

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THE SARL WEDNESDAY 80 M CLUB CONTEST ON 20 JULY

The fourth leg of the Wednesday 80 m Club contest will be run from 17:00 to 18:00 UTC on 20 July. One of the aims of this contest is to collect grid squares for your Worked All Grid Square award. You can operate CW, RTTY and phone during the contest, but, on phone, beware of the contest free segment of 3 651 to 3 700 kHz. The exchange is an RS, RST or RSQ report, your Club name or abbreviation and your 4-character grid square. All the exchange information must be obtained during the QSO. You score 3 points for a CW and RTTY QSO, 2 points for a phone QSO, 2 points for each new grid worked and 1 point for each new Club worked. Submit your log by 21:59 UTC on Monday 25 July to contest@sarl.org.za.

YOTA CONTEST 2022

The second session of this year's YOTA Contest, organised by the IARU Region 1 Youth Working Group in cooperation with the Hungarian Amateur Radio Society (MRASZ), will take place from 10:00 to 21:59 UTC on Saturday 23 July on the five classic bands using CW and SSB. Everyone can work everyone. The complete rules can be found on https://ham-yota.com/contest.

THE SARL PREMIER CONTEST IN AUGUST

The aim of the SARL HF Contests is for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands using phone, RTTY and CW. The HF Phone contest will be held on Sunday 7 August, the HF Digital contest on Sunday 14 August and the HF CW contest on Sunday 28 August 2022. You can participate as a Single Operator Single Radio - Single Band station, a Single Operator Single Radio - All Band station, a Multi Operator - Single Band station or a Multi Operator - All Band station. YL and Youth stations must clearly mark their logs as YL or Youth.

There are trophies to be awarded for the first place and the highest single band score in each contest. There is also a trophy for the highest combined score in all three contests. A trophy is awarded to the Phone contestant in his or her first year of phone achieving the highest score. Candidates for this trophy shall state the date of the issue of the licence on the summary sheet. A trophy is awarded to the radio amateur under the age of 26 achieving the highest score in the three contests and a trophy is awarded to the YL achieving the highest score in the three contests. There is also a certificate for the highest scoring stations outside South Africa.

Get all the information in the 2022 SARL Contest Manual and also read the General Rules in the document.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the solar activity is expected to be at low levels. There are currently 5 sunspots with simple to fairly complex magnetic configurations visible. There is a high probability for C- and M-class flaring. If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 114. The 10 to 30 m bands may provide some good DX fun especially in late afternoon. Please visit the website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

Finally, a diary of some upcoming events:

Today – the ZS2 QSO Party

19 July – the provincial schools reopen

20 July – the SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Contest

21 July – the closing date for QRP logs

22 July – the closing date for ZS2 logs

25 July – the closing date for 80 m Club Contest Logs

28 July – the Sandton ARC Talking Tech Power Hour

28 and 29 July – the Delta Aquarids Meteor shower

30 July – the Islamic New Year and the Pretoria ARC flea market

30 and 31 July – the RSGB Islands on the Air contest

7 August – the SARL HF Phone contest

8 August – a school holiday

9 August – Women's Day and the SARL YL QSO Party

12 August - International Youth Day and the closing date for HF Phone logs

12 and 13 August – the Perseids Meteor Shower

13 August – the SARL Youth QSO Party

To conclude our bulletin, a recap of our main news story:

The ZS2 QSO Party is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Eastern Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The aim for stations outside the Eastern Cape is to work as many ZS2 stations as possible! Get the rules on page 42 of the 2022 Contest Manual.

This concludes our bulletin for this morning.

We invite clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners, in both English and Afrikaans, if possible, by following the News Inbox link on the South African Radio League web page. News items to include in the bulletin should reach the news team no later than the Friday preceding the bulletin date.

You are welcome to join us every Sunday morning for the weekly radio program, Amateur Radio Today at 10:00 CAT. The programme can be heard on VHF and UHF repeaters countrywide and on 7 082 kHz lower sideband by courtesy of Louis, ZS5LP. A rebroadcast by Andy, ZS6ADY can be heard on Monday evenings at 19:30 CAT on 3 620 kHz.

We welcome your signal reports, comments and suggestions; please send these by e-mail to artoday@sarl.org.za.

You have listened to a news bulletin written by Dennis Green, ZS4BS, proofread by Dave Reece, ZS1DFR and read by .....

From the news team, best wishes for the week ahead.